FOOD

in Civil Defense

Selected papers from the United Kingdom, United States, and Canadian Combined Conference on Administrative and Scientific Aspects of Food in Civil Defense, London, November 26 through December 13, 1951.

Upon the invitation of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Combined Conference on Administrative and Scientific Aspects of Food in Civil Defense was convened in London on November 26, 1951.

Official delegates from the Government of Canada, of the United Kingdom, and of the United States of America participated in sessions which extended through December 13, 1951. The Canadian delegation was led by Maj. Gen. F. F. Worthington, Civil Defense Coordinator of Canada, Ottawa; that of the British by G. S. Bishop, Under Secretary in Charge of Defense Plans, Ministry of Food, London, England; and that of the United States by Paul B. Murphy, food specialist of the Health and Welfare Office, Federal Civil Defense Administration, Washington, D. C.

The conference considered, in the light of the experience of the United Kingdom in World War II and of the subsequent development of plans in all three countries, the administrative and scientific problems which arise in maintaining food supplies as part of defense measures.

After a broad survey of the problems in plenary session and a general review of experience, the conference organized detailed discussions in three major groups. One considered emergency feeding problems. The second section examined problems of food administration, and the third probed present status and future needs from a scientific standpoint.

Public Health Reports presents in the following pages and in succeeding issues a number of the more significant papers which have now been made available by the three governments.

In selecting the papers for Public Health Reports emphasis has been placed on topics of broad interest and practical importance to public health—nutritional considerations, food sanitation in emergencies, research. By way of introduction, a summary of the conference findings and recommendation to the three governments precedes the first group of papers.